ANGUS MUNN WOODBURY 1886-1964

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Angus Munn Woodbury, Professor of Biology, Emeritus, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, and his wife, Grace Atkin Woodbury, were killed in a two-car head-on collision Saturday, August 1, 1964, a mile north of Loveland, Colorado, on U.S. Highway 287, Dr. Woodbury was employed, at the time of his death, as a lecturer at the BSCS Institute at the State University of Colorado, Fort Collins.

Angus M. Woodbury was born in Saint George, Utah on July 11, 1886. His parents. John Taylor Woodbury and Mary Evans Woodbury, were early settlers in St. George. They were highly respected members of this isolated pioneer settlement. Dr. Woodbury early took advantage of educational opportunities. He attended the Brigham Young University in 1906, after which he became assistant Forest Ranger in 1908. He retired from the forest service in 1920, having advanced to that of deputy supervisor. From 1920 to 1926 he was engaged in agricultural work and was teaching assistant at Dixie Junior College. In 1926 he again attended Brigham Young University, graduating in 1927 with a Bachelor of Science degree, with a major in zoology.

In the fall of 1927 Dr. Woodbury began his graduate work in zoology at the University of Utah. He was granted a Master of Science Degree in the spring of 1928. After serving as an instructor in 1929 he made preparations to continue his training in zoology at the University of California, Berkeley, from which institution he graduated with a Doctor of Philosophy Degree in 1931. In 1925 he was appointed Park Naturalist at Zion National Park which position he held during the summers until 1933. It was while serving as a pioneer naturalist that he became interested in ecology which resulted in his two major contributions in this field: Biotic Relationships of Zion Canyon, Utah with Special Reference to Succession, 1933, and Principles of General Ecology, 1953.

In 1931 Woodbury attained the rank of Assistant Professor at the University of Utah, and advanced to Associate Professor in 1939, and

Professor in 1942. He was made head of the Department of Vertebrate Zoology in 1948 and retired as Emeritus professor in 1952.

Retirement had no deterring effects on Woodbury's activities since he served as director of Ecological Research at Dugway Proving Grounds from 1952 to 1956. In 1957 he was made director of Ecological Research on the Colorado River Project which position he held until 1964. His ability to organize and direct research work on the Ecology of Disease Transmission in native animals at Dugway met with great favor by the Army Chemical Corps, The monographic reports on the flora and fauna of the Upper Colorado River Basin carried out in connection with several collaborators, laid the founda-

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Angus M. Woodbury, general ecologist, biologist; University of Utah, 1928-1964.

tion for future work on the ecology of this new recreational waterway, Lake Powell. One of the convincing arguments made in support of the protection of Rainbow Bridge without building a dam on Aztec Creek, was made by Dr. Woodbury—Science, 1961, 133(3464): 1572-1583.

His accomplishments were many. One that stood out was his teaching ability. He was a devoted leader of his students. His quiet, kindly manners endeared him to his students and friends. His lectures were well oragnized and frequently interspaced with clever, meaningful jokes followed by a "whisper-soft laugh". He drew from his scholarly background and wide field experience many clinching

examples to buttress his reasoning.

Professor Woodbury's publications, which include several books. number over 100 and cover a wide range of subject matter. He was greatly interested in the history of Utah, as evidenced by his several papers including: The Route of Jedediah S. Smith in 1826 from the Great Salt Lake; and A History of Southern Utah and its National Parks. He was well informed on Utah birds. As a senior co-author with Clarence Cottam and John Sugden, a sizeable manuscript on the birds of Utah awaits publication. These three authors did, however. publish in 1949: An Annotated Checklist of the Birds of Utah. In 1945 Woodbury and Henry N. Russell published: Birds of the Navajo Country, 158 pages. Woodbury's interest in the reptiles of Utah resulted in two published reports: Catalogue of the Reptiles of Utah and Studies of the Desert Tortoise, Gopherus agassizii (with Ross Hardy), which will long be useful references when dealing with this class of Utah animals. A complete list of all of Dr. Woodbury's published papers is included as a part of this paper.

Professor Woodbury was an active and enthusiastic supporter of a number of professional organizations. He was punctilious as to his attendance and participation in society meetings, even though it necessitated his traveling long distances outside of Utah. Some of the scientific organizations of which he was a member and his rank follow: Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science; Fellow of the American Ornithological Union and a member of the council of this organization; Fellow of the Herpetological League; Fellow, Utah Academy, Science, Arts and Letters; Member, Population Reference Bureau; Member, American Society Ichthyologists and Herpetologists; Member, Ecological Society of America; Member, Cooper Ornithological Society; Member, Biological Society of Washington; Member, Nature Conservancy; and Member, American Museum Natural History. He was active in the Audubon Society

Program in Utah.

Angus M. Woodbury and Grace Atkin were married on January 15, 1909. They are survived by their four sons and two daughters: Lowell Angus; Marian (Mrs. A. Herbert Gold); Max Atkin; Edith Rae (Mrs. Robert C. Pendelton); Dixon Miles; and John Walter. The sons all have Ph.D. degrees in the biological sciences, having followed in their father's footsteps. The daughters did not depart

from the field of biology since they are married to Ph.D. biologists.

I have never known a more devoted couple than Angus and Grace Woodbury. After marriage their ontogony was such that their lives, home life and research activities resulted in an integrated family life. They traveled together in field study activities and made their home a haven for biology students. Mrs. Woodbury once said, "I early learned to live in peaceful coexistence with a scientist."

Few native sons of Utah have risen to such prominence in the field of biology as did Angus M. Woodbury. His untimely death came as a great shock to his family, colleagues, and host of friends. At the time of his death he was actively engaged in several research projects. His accomplishments and influence as a teacher will live

on in the enrichment of the lives of others.

List of Angus M. Woodbury Published Papers 1927-1964

1927

Studies in the Sphecoidea of Utah. Utah Acad, Sci., Proc. 4:27-28, 1927.

1928 The reptiles of Zion National Park, [Utah]. Copeia No. 166:14-21, March 23, 1928.

The reptiles of Zion National Park. Utah Acad. Sci., Proc. 5:11-12, 1928.

1929

Notes on the spiders of Washington County, Utah [with *R. V. Chamberlin]. Biol. Soc. Wash., Proc. 42:131-141, Pls. I and II. March 30, 1929. The snails of Zion National Park. Nautilus 43:54-61, October, 1929.

A new rattlestake from Utah. Univ. Utah Bull. 20(6), Biol. Ser. 1(2), 3 pp., 2 figs., December, 1929.

1930

Insect studies of Zion National Park. Utah Ed. Rev. 23:382-383, 403, 404, April, 1930,

Crotalus confluentus concolor (Woodbury). Antivenin Inst. Amer., Bull. 4:23, May, 1930.

1931

A descriptive catalog of the reptiles of Utah. Univ. Utah Bull. 21(5), Biol. Ser. 1(4), x + 129 pp., 58 figs., February, 1931. The route of Jedediah S. Smith in 1826 from the Great Salt Lake. Utah

Hist. Quart., 4:35-46, April, 1931. A list of the common birds of Zion National Park. [List XI, p. 169, Bird watching in the west, R. S. Twining]. Metropolitan Press, Portland, Oregon, October, 1931.

1933

The scratching of the spurred towhee. Condor 35:70, March, 1933.

Biotic relationships of Zion Canyon, Utah, with special reference to succession. Ecol. Monogr. 3:147-246, 29 figs., April, 1933.

The bird rookeries of the islands of Great Salt Lake [with W. H. Behle]. Utah Acad. Sci., Proc. 10:165, 1933.

Animal life. Conservation and management of wild life. [Editor and contributor Parts IX and X in] Utah resources and activities, Utah State Board of Education, 1933.

1936

Animal relationships of Great Salt Lake. Ecology 17:1-8, 1 fig., January, 1937

Planning for the conservation of Utah's wildlife. Utah Ed. Rev. 30:173-174. February 8, 1937.

An evolutionary time scale, Evolution 4:7-8, illus., June, 1937.

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A brown pelican record from Utah. Condor 39:225, September, 1937.

A record of Tadarida macrotis from Utah. Jour. Mann. 18:515, November 14, 1937.

1938

The Lower Sonoran in southwestern Utah. Science 87:484-485, May 27, 1938. Red-naped sapsucker and rufous hummingbird. Condor 40:125, May, 1938.

An hour in the life of a broad-tailed hummingbird [with John W. Sugden]. *Ibid*. 40:160-162, 1 fig., July, 1938.

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Bird records from Utah and Arizona. Ibid. 41:157-163, July, 1939.

Observations on the breeding of the western chipping sparrow. Oologist 56: 114-116 (No. 629), October, 1939.

[Abstract] Management of aquatic wildlife in the Great Basin. Utah Acad. Sci., Arts Lett., Proc. 16:41, 1939.

[Abstract] Reproductive cycles in the sagebrush lizard Sceloporus g. graciosus

[with Marian Woodbury]. Ibid, 16:65, 1939. 1940

Management of aquatic wildlife in the Great Basin, Sci Monthly 50:307-322, illus., April, 1940.

Antler-eating by rodents. Science, 92:127-128, August 9, 1940.

Northern crested lizard collected in Utah [with Ross Hardy]. Copeia 1940 (3):205, November 14, 1940.

The dens and behavior of the desert tortoise [with Ross Hardy], Science 92: 529, December 6, 1940.

Pigmy conifer limits in Utah. Utah Acad. Sci., Arts Lett., Proc. 17:13, 1940.

1941

Nesting of the gray flycatcher [with *Henry N. Russell, Jr.]. Auk 58:28-37, January, 1941.

Copulation in gopher snakes. Copeia 1941(1):54, March 25, 1941.

Bird habitats of the Salt Lake Region. Audubon Mag, 43:253-264, Illus., May,

Animal migration—periodic-response theory, Auk 58:463-505, October, 1941. Changing the "hook-order" in cows. Ecology 22:410-411. October, 1941.

1942

Man's biological future, Science 95:121-122, January 30, 1942.

Studies of the rat snake, Elaphe laeta, with description of a new subspecies [with Dixon M. Woodbury]. Biol. Soc. Wash., Proc. 55:133-142, 2 figs., October 17, 1942.

Notes on migrations of the painted lady butterfly in 1941 [with John W. Sugden and Clyde Gillette]. Pan.-Pac. Ent. 18:165-176, 1 fig., October,

Status of the name Crotalus concolor, Copeia 1942(4):258, December 28, 1942.

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The Joshua tree flower as a source of food [with Maurine Noall, Corliss R. Kinney, and James Sugihara]. Ibid. 20:49-50, 1943 [printed 1944].

Report of rattlesnake bite of J. Dwain Anderson [with Mrs. J. Dwain Anderson]. Ibid. 20:185-188, 1943 [printed 1944].

1944

Type locality of Perisoreus canadensis capitalis Ridgway [with Clarence Cottam] Auk 61:131-132, January, 1944.

Research on the high school level. Nation's Schools 33:47, February, 1944. Research is needed in high schools and colleges. Utah Ed. Rev. 37:271-273, 306. May 8, 1944.

A history of southern Utah and its national parks. Utah Hist. Quart. 12:111-22, illus., July-October, 1944 [printed in 1945; revised and reprinted in 1950.

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Acad. Sci., Jour. 34:360-373, November 15, 1944. Further light on the "fossil" bird nests of the Great Salt Lake Desert [with *William H. Behle and Walter P. Cottam]. Utah Acad. Sci. Art. Lett., Proc., 21:4, 1944.

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Birds of the Navajo country [with Henry Norris Russell, Jr.]. Univ. Utah Bull. 35(14), Biol. Ser. 9(1), 158 pp., 7 figs., 1 fold, map. March 1, 1945. A new Gerrhonotus lizard from Utah. Biol. Soc. Wash., Proc. 58:5-10. 2

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[Abstract] Results of color-banding California Gulls at Egg Island, Great Salt Lake, Utah [with William H. Behle]. Utah Acad, Sci. Art. Lett., Proc. 22:8, 1945.

Life-history studies of the sagebrush lizard Sceloporus g. graciosus with special reference to cycles in reproduction [with *Marian Woodbury]. Herpe-

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April 20, 1947.

Distribution of pigmy conifers in Utah and northeastern Arizona. Ecology 28:113-126, 6 figs., April, 1947.

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The speckled rattlesnake in NW Arizona [with Ross Hardy]. Herpetologica 3:169, 1947,

1948

Studies of the desert tortoise, Gopherus agassizii [with Ross Hardy]. Ecol. Monogr. 18:145-200, 25 figs., April, 1948.

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1952

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- c. Amphibians and reptiles of the Great Salt Lake Valley, Herpetologica, 8:42-50. July 15.

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1955

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1957

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b. The name [Crotalus viridis concolor Woodbury.] Copeia, 1958:151.

[and Grace A. Woodbury] Ralph Vary Chamberlin, educational and cultural contributions. *The Biologist*, 40:21-26.

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c. [Biological editor] Ecological studies of the flora and fauna in Glen Can-

yon. Univ. Utah Anthro. Papers, No. 40:1-226.

d. Working plan for ecological studies, Glen Canyon Reservoir, Upper Colorado River Basin. *Univ. Utah Anthro. Papers*, 40:1-20. [Original Report to National Park Service, 1957].

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